

File MRC
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MEMORANDUM

To: Environmental Coordinating Committee
From: Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
Date: February 17, 1978
Subject: Notice of Proposed Action to Approve
a Uranium Mining Operation

The mining and reclamation plan for Minerals Recovery Corporation's South Lisbon Mine, in Sections 35 and 36, Township 30 South, Range 25 East, SLBM, San Juan County, Utah is in the process of being approved under the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act.

This description of the action will replace the environmental assessment usually called for on mining operations.

A State mineral lease ML-17661 has been assigned for the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 36 which is the area of the operation involving State land.

The operation is a reactivation of previously existing mines and will have a minimal impact on the surrounding environment since most of the surface disturbances have already occurred. The type of operation will be a combination of open pit and underground mining and involves a surface disturbance of approximately three (3) acres. Waste material generated from the operation will be used as fill material for the open pit.

The mine is located southeast of Moab, Utah in lower Lisbon Valley approximately five (5) miles from the Colorado State line. The area is primarily used for mining and grazing of wildlife and domestic livestock. The climate is semiarid with 12 to 14 inches average annual precipitation. The soils are well-drained with moderate permeability and runoff is medium to rapid with moderate sediment production. The principal vegetation is juniper, pinyon pine, big sagebrush, some oakbrush, bluebunch wheatgrass, and Indian ricegrass, with other forbs and shrubs in lesser amounts.

Upon termination of the operation the area will be reclaimed by removing or burying all extraneous materials, sealing all portals and vent holes, reducing the vertical walls of the pit, and revegetating the disturbed surface areas. The pit will be fenced and warning signs will be posted. The main access roads will be left open for future use.

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It is proposed that this action will not significantly effect the environment of the State land involved and that no further assessment is necessary.

Further information may be obtained from Jim Smith at 533-5771.